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SANDMAN
PRESENTS

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CRAIG BAXTER
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Lucifer



THE
MORNINGSTAR
OPTION



Scott Hampton

OBI

MIKE CAREY
SCOTT HAMPTON

THE
S A N D M A N
P R E S E N T S

Lucifer

THE
MORNINGSTAR
OPTION

PART ONE



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"THE THREE CELLS ONE
SEES IN THE RING OF FIRE
—ONE DARK AREA,
ANOTHER, FIRST THERE
WAS DARKNESS, THEN
THERE WAS LIGHT.

"BORN PEOPLE REMEMBER
IT DIFFERENTLY. THEY SEE
THE DARKNESS AS A
TUNNEL THAT THEY
CRAWLED THROUGH TO
REACH THE LIGHT. A
VERTICAL TUNNEL. THE
LIGHT WAS IN ANOTHER
PLACE FOR SOME.

"ONE MEANS NOTHING
TO YOU, DOES IT?"

"IN ANY CASE, DARK CELL
ONE IS ONLY AS A JOURNEY
A ROAD AND CERTAIN
JOURNEY. THE PLACE
WHERE THEY STARTED
FROM WAS FIRST WORLD.

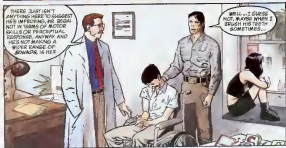
"FURTHER THE DARKNESS
WAS UNDER IT STILL IS.

"UNDERSTANDING THE DARK"
ONE LIVED THERE THEN
LIVES THERE STILL, THOUGH
SOME WHO REMEMBERED
THE PLACE HALF A MILLION
YEARS AGO. THERE ARE
FORESTS OF BLACK TREES
A HUNDRED FEET TALL,
STANDING INVISIBLE IN
THE DARK. THERE ARE
THE JUNGLES... MONUMENTS
...THAT HAVE NOT EXISTED
IN GEOLOGICAL AGES.

"YOU HAVE FORGOTTEN THE
WORDLESS, BUT THEY HAVE
NOT FORGOTTEN YOU. THEY
WANT YOU TO COME SOME
WHERE THE FEEL OF YOUR
HEAD AND YOUR WORKING
BUT WHILE THE DARKNESS
IS A HOME FOR THEM, HOW
YOU IT WAS ONLY A HOME.

"YOU BECAME DARK...

"...WHEN YOU WERE BORN
NEO THE LARGEST."







LOCAL MAN JERRY DUFFINO STREAKED HIS BOSS WITH SHAVING FOAM WHEN HE WON THE STATE LOTTERY RECENTLY, BUT TWELVE HOURS LATER HE WAS ASKING FOR HIS OLD JOB BACK...

I DUNNO ABOUT WHAT MOOSE IS THAT LANDSCAPE STUFF IT ALWAYS LEAVES 'EM DOPED? WHAT DOES REDMON, SACH?



...BECAUSE A STAGGERING EIGHT HUNDRED PEOPLE PICKED THE 999999 NUMBERS, EACH COLLECTING LESS THAN THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS! I DON'T GIVE UP YOUR DAY JOB, JER.

WELL IF IT'S A CHOICE BETWEEN DOPED AND FREEDY I KNOW WHICH SHIRT I'D GO FOR.



WHAT'S THAT, FLOWER?

NOTHING, DAD.



YOU KNOW HE BE USING HIS VOICE MORE. I REMBER IF WE COULD GET 'EM SOME KIND OF SPEECH THERAPY.

I APPRECIATE YOU LOOKIN' AFTER 'EM TONIGHT, FLOWER. I KNOW YOU WANTED TO GO OUT, BUT I GOTTA INVENT THE TUNE AT THE SHOP.



NO PROBLEM. ALL PART OF THE SERVICE.

TOM, COME ON, PAUL. MOST CHUCKS WON'T EVEN LOOK AT A GUY WITH PROOL ON HIS CHIN.



"THEN AGAIN, MOM LOOKED AT DAD.

"AND I GUARTEE THERE'S HOPE FOR ALL OF US."





"BROOD, FEEL THE HOT
COUCH, THE GROUND, THE AIR,
FOURTH, SCALD YOUR GARDENS,
FOR THIS IS OF THE SEVEN
OTHER, WHICH IS ABOVE
CONFESSION."



"THE DAY I CAN
SPEAK AND FORGET
GOOD, I CAN
PLAY TO YOU, I CAN
WORKING HARD."



"A BOLD, BOLD
JOHN CATCHING, ON
SINGLES, HE WAS
TALKING ABOUT THE
CHANGES, AND
SPEAKING TO
SPEAKING OF
WALL."

"YOU'RE
THE ONE
AND LIKE
TO GO
THAT
SOMEONE
SOMEONE
THAT."



"TAKING IS NO
ROOM FOR DOUBT
OR SKEWED IN THE
SERIES OF THE
NAME. IF YOU
REALLY, THAT
YOU MIGHT
BE OF THE
HUT."



"I SHOULD SAY TO THE
COURT, THAT I FIND THE
VIBRATION BOTH WELCOME AND
UNWELCOME. I AM NO LONGER
HELL'S RULER AND NOW HAVE NO
BUSINESS WITH ME."



"And how are
you finding your
retirement, Prince
of the East?"



"RESCUE"







I am to place
a proposition before
you. Against my will
Against my judgment
Knowing full well
that this will be
the kiss of death
and the doom

Say no right
now and you will
spare me considerable
effort



There is a power
at work on earth
which is granting
human wishes



SAY THERE ARE MANY
GOOD THINGS THAT HAVE
BEEN GRANTED THAT BRING
IN GOOD GOOD.



Oh, but there
different for one
thing, it is now for
another, it is now
by movement. We
have colored
examples



SHOULD ONE
TRY TO
RECOVER?



The instances so far are
trivial - treasures found in old
repositories, unexpected casual
encounters of our young sweet-
heart, the sudden death of my
relative. But you know the
nature of human desire.

They'll rip each
other apart like rats
in a sack





Because of
power needs
rather than
efficiency, in the
end to avoid
buying an ill-
fitted

Now
everybody's
talking coffee. I
can hold that now.
A.A. rated your
price.

CASE 1
 FIGHT FIGHT
 THE FORCE OF
 CASE 1 CASE
 FIGHT IT

**HOW
CAN POLICE
CONFIDENCE
WOULD BE
RECOVERED
TO STOP**

Avg. cell



Living alone
amongst them
without them like
and the bad band
and rock—how can't
help but think about
how much more
everything is in the
universe, moving
really, moving
like moving
from 10-138.

1. INTRODUCTION



THE CASE
THE PRISONER &
LETTER OF
STANLEY



285, Cont. No. 14
ALPHABETICALLY INDEXED
DATE: 1982



I do not
gasp your
meaning

ARE NOT NECESSARILY
YOUR OWN SACRILEGE

THERE IS ANOTHER
SIDE TO THE STAY THAT'S
ALL. IT'S ABOUT THE
YOU ABOUT IT SOME DAY
SOME DAY. HAVE ACHIEVED
WILL GET YOU ON HIS LAP
AND GIVE YOU ONE LAST



YOUR
MORALITY
DEMANDS
YOU HAVE
ACCEPTED THE
CONSEQUENCE

DO YOU
NEED
ANYTHING
ELSE OF THE
MORALITY
I LEAVE?



WAS
IT LIEBOW
APPROACH

AN AP...?

FOR THE
DAMAGE YOU
CAUSED TO THE
CABLE



THERE IS
ANOTHER
SIDE TO THE
STAY THAT'S
ALL. IT'S ABOUT
THE YOU ABOUT
IT SOME DAY
SOME DAY. HAVE
ACHIEVED
WILL GET YOU
ON HIS LAP
AND GIVE YOU
ONE LAST

I apologize
LIEBOW
MORALITY
DEMANDS
YOU HAVE
ACCEPTED THE
CONSEQUENCE



GOODBYE,
LIEBOW



MARKER, CALL THE SCUFF
THAT CAN BE. WE WILL NOT
BE ORDERING THIS EVENING

YES, NOT
BROOD

LIGHT SOME
CANDLES. KEEP
THEM LIT FROM
NOW ON. AND
BRING ME A WINE
AND A DOME --
SQUALLY &
PULSON WILL
DO.











THEN HOW IS POSSIBLE THE BLIND, LORD OF THE LILIM IF GOLD? IS HE SIGHTLESS? I MEAN, WITHIN THE USUAL PARAMETERS?

HIS LUNGS *burnt* HIS EVERY HEARTBEAT TEND HIS SIDE LIKE A *FLAMING* *ROD*

BE WELL WITH THE USUAL PARAMETERS, THEN.



WHAT DO YOU WANT HERE, LIMPBY



INFORMATION I HAVE AN OCCASIONAL ARRANGEMENT WITH HOUSE MAGES WHICH HE MAY HAVE MENTIONED TO YOU

AN ARRANGEMENT?

AN ARRANGEMENT, YES.



THEN GO UP AND BE BURNED TO YOU WHEN THE LILIM CLAIM THEIR RIGHT, YOU'LL LAST NO LONGER THAN THE ANGELS, YOU'LL JUST BURN WITH A DIFFERENT COLORED FLAME

OH, NOTHING WILL BE BURNING AS THAT. EVEN GOLD FLAME ONLY LASTS SO LONG



WHO'S THERE, MAN? I HEAR VOICES.

IS IT THE CHALDEAN BITCH, COME GRABBING FOR PEEPS OF THE DEAD CITY? OR FAULEY SAMUEL WITH HIS HURT PRIDE AND HIS KANGAROO TONGUES? WHO'S THERE, I SAY!



NOBODY CALLED THE SAMUEL FOR SUCH A LONG TIME. IT'S LIKE SOMEBODY'S USING MOUNTAIN-DOW FLAME.

LOVE BURPER!

NOBODY STILL BACK, I SEE.



EVERY THAT'S A SHALLOW MIND TO REAGRE THE VAINNESS OF MY SUFFERING. MY LORD, IF YOU HAVE ANY OF THAT HEALING WATER ABOUT YOU I'LL TAKE IT NOW AND PAY YOU IN SOME LITTLE SHAVE.



BUT IT DRAWS YOUR EYES.



TELL ME YOURS! YOU KNOW EXACTLY WHAT I SEE. YOU KNOW EXACTLY HOW MUCH RESEMBLANCE HEAVEN HAS ALLOWED TO ME!



THE NEED AND THE HOPE DRAWS NO NEED TO REMIND ME OF YOUR CHARGE. DO YOU THINK THAT IS A SOCIAL CALL?

IF YOU WANT ONE LESSER LUTTER, DEMON YOU'LL HAVE TO WORK FOR IT. ONE SAME SOME AS SHARED.



ASK ME THEN, BUT IN HELL'S NAME BE BORN! A BIRTH AND A DEATH. I'LL GIVE YOU TWO MOMENTS FOR TWO SIPS OF OBLIVION.

ONE MOMENT.



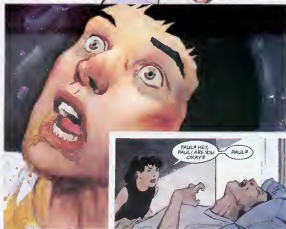
IT WILL BE BORN, NOW SEE.



A BIRTH AND A DEATH.









OH MY GOD!
PAUL, PLEASE!
DON'T DO THIS TO
ME! BREATHE!
PLEASE BREATHE!



EXCUSE ME,
I'D LIKE TO BATHING
SUITE

WHY? WHO
ARE YOU? WHAT
ARE YOU DOING?



CRIPPLED. THIS WAS
A MORE COMPLEX CRIME-
SCENE THAN I THOUGHT

AN EXCHANGE --
A TWO-WAY FLOW
POWER WIT FLOWING
FOR, BUT POWER
WAS DELIVERED
TOO.



A VILLAIN
SOME MOTHER
HAS CREATED
A VILLAIN

LISTEN, ARE
YOU SOME KIND
OF DOCTOR? ARE
YOU SOME... ARE
YOU SOME
SQUADRA
HUNT?

BUT HE
SAID THAT
THE POWER
LIEKED
HIM...



COULD HE CRACK?

WHAT?

YOUR
BROTHER
COULD HE
CRACK?



NO, HE JUST...
HE JUST MADE MOTHER,
YOU KNOW





HOME
AGAIN, HOME
AGAIN

SHRETTY
JIG

TO BE CONTINUED